

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 7-14 as follows:

~~EP-1 097 672 A1~~ US 6,350,237 discloses a childbirth monitoring device which acquires patient data, for example, the heartbeat of a fetus and contractions of the uterus of the mother, so as to make this data available to a server. A user, for example, a physician or a nurse, can log in to a server PC, via a data link, by means of a client PC. In this case a data link is used in the form of a data network, notably the Internet. In this system it is in principle possible to access the patient data from any location, that is, in as far as an appropriate Internet connection is available. This system thus enables remote monitoring of the patient or patients.

On page 2, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 3-16 as follows:

~~WO-01/03575 A1~~ US 6,635,017 discloses a system which enables communication, via the Internet, with a medical apparatus implanted in a patient. To this end, the implanted medical apparatus communicates with a server which itself is connected to the Internet whereto the client can be connected. The communication via the Internet takes place via a first channel and via a second channel. In the cited document it is proposed to transmit a first data stream via the first channel, which first data stream contains a reception acknowledgement which is retransmitted to the transmitter in the opposite direction as soon as the first data stream has been received correctly by the receiver. The communication established between the server and the client via the first channel is comparatively reliable, but also comparatively slow. In the known system the reliability of the data link is effectively tested via the first channel. In contrast therewith, a second data stream is transmitted via the second channel, which second data stream does not contain a reception acknowledgement. Consequently, the second data stream reaches a higher transmission rate, but the reliability of the data transmission is reduced in proportion.

On page 2, please delete the paragraph spanning lines 26-27 in its entirety as follows:

~~This object is achieved as disclosed in the independent claims. Advantageous further embodiments are disclosed in the dependent claims.~~

On page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 27 and continuing to page 3, line 2 as follows:

~~The invention is based on the general idea to configure a~~ A control unit of a server application run on the server is configured in such a manner that, for as long as it is driven in time by means of a trigger signal, it indicates the existence of a reliable data link on the display screen, the control unit being driven by the trigger signal only if a previously executed test procedure has successfully tested that a reliable data link exists between the client and the server. If the test result of the test procedure fails to appear or is excessively delayed, the trigger signal also remains absent or is delayed. Consequently, the control unit cannot be triggered in time, so that it produces a different indication on the client display screen so as to signal the user that the data link is not reliable (at that instant).

On page 3, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 10-14 as follows:

Notably with a view to real-time data transmission the invention offers the user more reliability that the output data displayed on the client display screen is essentially coherent in time with the output data presented on the server. The advantages of the method ~~in accordance with the invention~~ become manifest notably for the remote supervision of patients when an open data network, notably the Internet, is used for the data transmission.

On page 7, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 5-9 as follows:

The client 8 also comprises a sound card [[8]] 19 which may be connected to a loudspeaker 20. Furthermore, a keyboard 21 is connected to the client 8. The server application 9 and the client application 10 can communicate via the established data link 4, that is, via the data network 4, as is indicated by a double arrow 30. For example, input instructions can thus be applied from the keyboard 21.

On page 7, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 10-11 as follows:

~~The method in accordance with the invention, or the program package 12 in accordance with the invention,~~ operates as follows.

On page 11, after the last paragraph ending on line 24, please add the following new paragraph:

The invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiments. Modifications and alterations may occur to others upon reading and understanding the preceding detailed description. It is intended that the invention be construed as including all such modifications and alterations insofar as they come within the scope of the appended claims or the equivalents thereof.